

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A foam composite adapted to remove sparingly soluble hydrocarbon contaminants from water comprising: a scaffold of an open cell hydrophobic polyurethane foam, said foam having a plurality of pores having a plurality of surfaces, the surfaces of said pores having a coating of hydrophobic polyurethane disposed thereupon.
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2. A composite as recited in claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic polyurethane prepolymer comprises a C₈ -C₁₂ monohydric alcohol reacted with a polyisocyanate.
3. A composite as recited in claim 2 wherein the amount of alcohol is 10 - 25%
10 of the stoichiometric amount required for complete reaction with said polyisocyanate.
4. A process of making a foam composite adapted to remove sparingly soluble hydrocarbons from a waste stream which comprises:
 - (a) preparing a hydrophobic polyurethane prepolymer comprising the reaction product of a C₈ -C₁₂ monohydric alcohol with a polyisocyanate,
 - 15 (b) contacting an open cell hydrophobic polyurethane foam having a plurality of pores having a plurality of surfaces with said hydrophobic polyurethane prepolymer and a polyol and
 - (c) curing said prepolymer while in contact with said hydrophobic polyurethane for a period of time sufficient to form a coating of hydrophobic
20 polyurethane on the surfaces of the pores of said hydrophobic polyurethane foam.
5. A process for removing sparingly soluble hydrocarbon contaminants from water comprising: contacting the contaminated water with a foam composite comprising a scaffold of an open cell hydrophobic polyurethane foam, said foam having a plurality of pores having a plurality of surfaces, the surfaces of said pores having a coating of hydrophobic polyurethane disposed thereupon.
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